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Many times, our policies fail because we do not give farmers the opportunity to voice their realities. These farmers understand their land better than anyone else, and their insights are critical.

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border line,” he said.
Makonnen further urged a gender-responsive budget that includes increased capitation grants to cover specific needs, such as access to sanitary pads and safe private facilities. The compensation proposes raising annual capitation grants from \$1,000 to \$2,000 per primary pupil, and from \$2,000 to \$5,000 per secondary pupil.



CHRAGG condemns increasing incidents as Tanzania approaches October General Election

By Polymer Maching' Dabane

THE Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance (CHRAGG) yesterday condemned the increasing incidents that threaten human rights, good governance, and national peace as the nation approaches the October General Election.

Addressing a press conference in Dodoma yesterday, the Commission's chairwoman, Justice (Retd) Mattheus Mwanga told journalists a month ago, CHRAGG had issued a statement, summarizing political developments across the country.

He said following its investigation, the commission concluded that recent events, include inflammatory rhetoric, excessive force, and targeted attacks, point to serious breaches of human rights, the rule of law, and democratic norms.

Among the incidents highlighted include the 30th April, 2022 assault of Padre Dr. Charles Kitima, Secretary-General of the Tanzania Episcopal Conference, and the abduction of political activist Falika Said Nyagoli, popularly known as Mlende.

The incidents, CHRAGG emphasized, are examples of violence that endanger not just individuals but the entire democratic process.

CHRAGG condemned such acts, calling them “a violation of the constitution and international human rights standards.” The Commission warned that the events undermine public trust, disrupt peace, and erode Tanzania’s democratic credentials at a critical moment.

While recognizing that all Tanzanians have constitutional rights to life, freedom of expression, and political participation, CHRAGG reminded the

public that such rights come with responsibilities—including respecting the freedoms of others and operating within legal boundaries.

The retired judge called on all citizens whose rights may have been violated to seek redress through legal institutions such as the courts. It further reminded the Tanzania Police Force to carry out its duties, protecting lives and property, professionally and in accordance with constitutional and ethical standards.

The Commission urged the police to actively be investigating and prosecuting those responsible for the assault on Dr. Kitima, the abduction of Mlende, and other similar violations of human rights. CHRAGG also encouraged the Register of Political Parties to remind political leaders of their responsibility to observe the constitution and relevant laws during their

campaigns.

Moreover, CHRAGG emphasized the need for continued dialogue between the government and democracy stakeholders to address challenges during this election period. “The Commission call on all political leaders and citizens to preserve peace and stability, which is described as the foundation for enjoying human rights,” said Justice Mwanga.

As Tanzania approaches the elections, CHRAGG urged electoral stakeholders to maintain restraint and tolerance, warning that political competition during elections is vital for the country’s democracy.

The Commission reaffirmed its commitment to upholding justice, peace and the democratic process, pledging to continue monitoring the electoral environment and advocating for accountability.

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